



COVID-19 FAQ'S

Guidelines/Recommendations

- The CCHD wants to remind residents and the community that it is our mission to promote health, prevent disease, and protect the residents of the county. During the COVID-19 pandemic, staff at the CCHD follow guidelines and recommendations set forth by the DHS, and other expert entities whom are continuously researching and gaining knowledge about COVID-19. CCHD staff members do not make the guidelines or recommendations, but follow and enforce their guiding principles. Change in life is hard, and can be frustrating for everyone. We appreciate everyone in our community that has been helping prevent the spread of COVID-19!

COVID-19 Infectious Period

- Someone who is diagnosed with COVID-19 is considered to be infectious:
 - 2 days prior to the start of their symptoms (onset date) **AND** for 10 days from the onset of their symptoms.
- For someone who is diagnosed with COVID-19, but does not have symptoms, their test date serves as their "onset of symptoms" date.

COVID-19 Incubation Period

- The incubation period for COVID-19 is 14 days. This means that I can take up to 14 days for someone to start showing symptoms, and/or test positive for COVID-19, after being around someone who is "infectious" with COVID-19. **This is why close contacts need to quarantine for the full 14 days.**

Isolation

- "Isolation" is when someone has tested positive for COVID-19.
- They need to "isolate" away from everyone in the public, and their household members, to help stop the spread of COVID-19.
- "Isolation" = ill. "Ill" = tested positive.
- Those who test positive need to isolate for:
 - 10 days from the onset of their symptoms, **AND** have improvement of symptoms, **AND** be fever free for 24 hours without any fever-reducing medications. **-OR-**
 - 10 days from their positive test date if they do not have any symptoms.
- Since these individuals have tested positive, they are considered to be farther along in their "infectious period," thus, they do not need to stay at home for as long as those who are named as close contacts.

Quarantine

- "Quarantine" is when someone has been named as a close contact to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- They need to "quarantine" away from those in the general public/"quarantine" at home even if they are well.
- Those who are named as close contacts need to quarantine for:
 - 14 days from their last contact to the positive case while they were "infectious."
- Household Members to a Positive Case - I live with someone who was diagnosed with COVID-19 (whether symptoms are present or not):
 - Are you able to completely separate from the person who tested positive?
 - **Yes:** 14 days starts from the date you last had contact with the person, and that person completely separates from you.



- **No:** 14 days starts from the date the positive person finishes their isolation period/are not considered “infectious” anymore.
 - These close contacts will have to quarantine for a total of 24 days. Since separation is not possible, the positive person is potentially infecting the close contact the entire time they are isolated/until they meet the criteria to be released from isolation. It can take up to 14 days after that for the close contact to develop symptoms and/or test positive.
- Non-Household Members to a Positive Case – I have had close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 (whether symptoms are present or not):
 - 14 days start from their last contact with the positive person while they were “infectious.”

What if I test negative for COVID-19? (Taken from DHS Negative Test Result Handout)

- “You most likely do not have COVID-19 **at this time**. You could have been exposed to COVID-19 at some point and **not enough time has passed for the test to pick it up. You may test positive at a later date. If you are named as a close contact to someone with COVID-19, you still need to complete your full 14-day quarantine, even if you test negative.**”

Determining Close Contacts and Isolation/Quarantine Timelines

- School districts and Clark County Health Department staff work closely together to determine when someone needs to isolate or quarantine, and for how long. The Clark County Health Department makes the final decision on timelines for isolation and quarantine, based on all of the information provided to them from all sources.

Masks/Face Coverings (Taken from Wisconsin DHS)

- **What is the evidence supporting the use of cloth face coverings?**
 - CDC’s recommendation to use cloth face coverings was based on evidence suggesting that persons with COVID-19 can transmit the SARS-Cov-2 virus to others before they develop symptoms or have an asymptomatic infection (1,2). The efficacy of cloth masks depends on the material(s) and the number of layers (3,4,5). Below are the main takeaways from studies 3,4, and 5 cited in the previous sentence:
 - 3) *N95 masks, medical masks, and homemade masks made of four-layer kitchen paper and one-layer cloth could block 99.98%, 97.14%, and 95.15% of the virus in aerosols. With these data, we propose the approach of mask-wearing plus instant hand hygiene (MIH) to slow the exponential spread of the virus.*
 - 4) *Overall, we find that combinations of various commonly available fabrics used in cloth masks can potentially provide significant protection against the transmission of aerosol particles.*
 - 5) *Our measurements indicate that 2 or 3 layers of highly permeable fabric, such as T-shirt cloth, may block droplets with an efficacy similar to that of medical masks, while still maintaining comparable breathability. Overall, our study suggests that cloth face coverings, especially with multiple layers, may help reduce droplet transmission of respiratory infections. Furthermore, face coverings made from biodegradable fabrics such as cotton allow washing and reusing, and can help reduce the adverse environmental effects of widespread use of commercial disposable and non-biodegradable facemasks.*



- **Are there additional references about the effectiveness of use of cloth face coverings in preventing the spread of COVID-19?**
 - [Physical distancing, face masks, and eye protection to prevent person-to-person transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19: a systematic review and meta-analysis](#)
 - Meta-analysis showing that use of face masks in health care and non-health care is associated with significant reduction in risk of infection, but that it does not completely eliminated the risk (17% without mask, and 3% with mask, for certain encounters).
 - [Universal Masking to Prevent SARS-CoV-2 Transmission—The Time Is Now.](#)
 - Review article describing studies that have shown a significant protective effect of masks in health-care and non-health care settings.,
 - [Absence of Apparent Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 from Two Stylists After Exposure at a Hair Salon with a Universal Face Covering Policy — Springfield, Missouri, May 2020.](#)
 - Two symptomatic hair stylists. Both wore face coverings. 139 total clients and all wore face coverings.
 - No symptomatic secondary cases reported. 67 clients tested and all were negative.
 - [Factors Associated with Cloth Face Covering Use Among Adults During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, April and May 2020](#)
 - “From April to May, the prevalence of reported use of cloth face coverings was higher in all sociodemographic groups in the population, especially among non-Hispanic white persons, persons aged ≥65 years, and persons residing in the Midwest, suggesting widespread acceptance of this recommendation.”
 - “The increase in cloth face covering use continued to be reported as more persons began leaving their homes and going out in public more frequently from April to May.”

Resources/Websites

- Clark County Health Department Data Dashboard (Live-Press Release Coming Soon)
 - <https://clarkcowi.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/a0f83490fd594c4aba98bd08da464344>
- Clark County COVID-19 Page
 - <https://www.clarkcountywi.com/covid-19>
- Clark County Facebook Page
- Wisconsin Department of Health Services
 - <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm>
- Wisconsin Department of Health Services - Resources
 - <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/resources.htm>